

New-York Daily Tribune

FRIDAY, MAY 8, 1863.

Mr. A. Ross is agent for the sale of THE TRIBUNE, in HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

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NEWS OF THE DAY.

THE WAR.

—We received last night Richmond papers of Tuesday, and give elsewhere their account of the fighting on the Rappahannock and the operations of Gen. Stoneman's cavalry. They claim a great victory over Hooker. Lee's dispatch to Jeff. Davis is as follows: "Yesterday, Gen. Jackson penetrated to the rear of the enemy and drove him from all his positions from the Wilderness to within one mile of Chancellorsville [Saturday]. He was engaged at the same time in front by two of Longstreet's divisions. Many prisoners were taken, and the enemy's loss in killed and wounded is large. This morning the battle was renewed. He was dislodged from all his positions around Chancellorsville, and driven back toward the Rappahannock, over which he is now retreating. We have again to thank Almighty God for a great victory. I regret to state that Gen. Pickett was killed, Gen. Jackson severely and Gen. Heath and A. P. Hill slightly wounded." The papers say that 5,000 prisoners were taken on Saturday, Hooker's army driven back four miles, and an enormous number killed and wounded. On Sunday, Hooker was forced back at all points, and began to cross the river. Of Gen. Stoneman's operations they give pretty full accounts. Our cavalry broke the Richmond railroad in several places, destroying the bridge over the Chickahominy, about ten miles from Richmond, captured a train and burned the depots at Ashland or Hanover Court-House, a few miles further up, tore up the track at Ashland, on the Virginia Central, nine miles from Richmond, and then dashed off down the north bank of the Chickahominy toward Williamsburg. Their force at Ashland was only 274 Illinois troops, under Col. Davis. One paper says they behaved like gentlemen, and carefully abstained from the destruction of private property. This paper says they burned the commissary stores at Hanover Court-House. The attempt to destroy the canal at the mouth of the Rivanna failed, a Rebel force having got there in time to save it and to capture 40 Union troops. Our men were evidently under orders not to fight if they could possibly avoid doing so. The papers say the whole damage is trifling, though the movement was daring and skillfully executed.

—From West Virginia it is reported that the Rebels are at Weston, Jones and Inboden having united their forces there. Another Rebel force, under Gen. Walker, is reported near Summersville, along the New River, acting in conjunction with Jenkins, and threatening Charleston. The Baltimore and Ohio Railroad is now in running order again. The passengers are transferred at Fairmont, where the break in the connection occurs. When the Rebels were in possession of Fairmont, they burned the law and private libraries of Gov. Pierpont in the street; every house in the town and surrounding country was taken; 500 horses were taken from Marion County alone.

—We have a few items by way of Cairo from Grant and Sherman. After shelling Grand Gulf for eight hours on the 30th ult., our gunboats and transports with troops, passed below the batteries. We lost 36 killed and 54 wounded. Gen. McClelland's corps and Gen. Hogan's divisions were on the march for Port Hudson, all in good spirits. In the attack on Haines Bluff, five gun and three mortar-boats were engaged. The attack was made simultaneously with that on Grand Gulf, but was not intended to be pushed to any length. The Choctaw was not injured so badly as at first stated.

—The War Department has authorized the chief medical officer in each city to employ as cooks, nurses, and attendants, any convalescent, wounded, or feeble men who can perform such duties, instead of giving them discharges. At every U. S. general hospital, the feeble and wounded, therefore, who are unfit for field duty, but not entirely disabled, instead of being discharged, are now organized and mustered in detachments, under the charge of officers acting as military commanders.

—Our Commissioner for the Exchange of Prisoners has completed the exchange of all officers and enlisted men delivered at City Point up to the 6th; all officers on parole up to April 1 wherever captured, and all enlisted men taken in North Carolina and Virginia and on parole up to March 1. Gen. Williford and Gen. Stoughton are among the latest releases.

—The Rebels are all gone from Suffolk beyond the Blackwater. After the fight on Sunday, the Rebels buried 900 of their dead, and left many more on the field.

—On Wednesday the transport steamer Majesty was accidentally burned in the Mississippi, below Hickman. She had 1,400 tons of commissary stores and 150 horses—all lost.

—Price's forces for the invasion of Missouri are collecting at Little Rock, Ark. They are all to be mounted, and will move up Black River. The 25th inst. will be the time of starting.

—Government Bonds were very strong yesterday in Philadelphia, and in spite of the retreat of Hooker's army large subscriptions were made for 5-20s by patriotic citizens.

—Col. Phillips crossed the Arkansas River on the night of the 24th ult., and routed a Rebel force which had been collecting at Weber's Falls, taking all their camp equipment.

—The 27th New-Jersey Regiment, in recrossing the Cumberland River on the 24 inst., had one of their boats upset, and 25 men were drowned.

—The Rebels are said to have one gunboat and 30 transports between Shreveport and Alexandria on the Red River.

GENERAL NEWS.

—Last night Mozart Hall was filled with men of exuberant proclivities, who passed a series of resolutions deprecating the continuance of the war; declaring the salvation of the country depends upon the Democratic party; that our intercourse with foreign countries has been a series of blunders since the commencement of the war; that the arrest of Vallandigham was an act of absolute despotism; that they do not intend the address of the Democratic members of the Legislature, and that measures be taken forthwith to call a Mass Convention. The resolutions were supported by ex-Recorder Smith and James Brooks. Mayor Wood was called for, but did not respond. One or two members of the Committee protested earnestly against the use of their names in connection with these resolutions.

resolutions. Mr. Ben. Fairchild, the Chairman, announced that a Mr. Rossier of Pennsylvania had sent him a Copperhead breastpin in a butternut setting, and he would wear it with satisfaction and pride. While one of the leaders was protesting against the proceedings, the meeting suddenly adjourned.

—The steamer Columbia, from New-Orleans May 1, and Havana the 3d, arrived last night. She brings no news from Mexico. There is little war news save the General Orders of Major-Gen. Banks. These have a sharp and clear ring. One orders all registered enemies of the Government to leave the Department by the 15th of May; another declares death to be the penalty of any man furnishing shelter to the Rebels; another forbids Sheriffs executing an enrollment of negroes ordered by the Rebel Government, and calls upon all negroes, bond or free, who desire to escape Rebel conscription, to "follow the flag of the Government, now and forever the flag of Union and Liberty;" another is directed against struggling and pillaging in his own army.

—The friends of the 5th Regiment of Volunteers (Duryee Zouaves), aided by several volunteer and militia regiments, and the Committee of the Common Council on National Affairs, will give the returning members of that regiment (the 5th) a grand reception on their arrival here. The 10th Volunteers (Bendix Zouaves), the 37th, and 71st N. Y., and several fire companies will parade on that occasion, and, in the evening the officers and men of the 5th, and a number of invited guests, will sit down to a dinner at the City Assembly Rooms. The 5th reached Jersey City last night, and will be received to-day. See notice to the 10th Regiment National Zouaves, also notice to the 5th Regiment, Duryee Zouaves.

—The Board of Aldermen, last evening, by resolution, requested the Mayor to communicate with the Governor and Senator Morgan, and ascertain what portion, if any, of the money appropriated for our harbor defense had been apportioned to this city. The Controller was directed to discontinue the leases of the ground bounded by Sixteenth and Seventeenth street and Avenue C and East River, and prepare the same for market purposes. The award for damages caused by the extension of the Central Park, as shown by a communication from the Controller, amounts to \$1,198,005 23; for benefits to property-holders, \$166,798 13—leaving a balance against the city of \$1,031,207 10.

—The Board of Councilmen yesterday concurred with the Aldermen in requesting the Mayor to ask the Harbor Defense Commissioners, appointed at Albany, to state what proportion of the million dollars appropriated by the Legislature for frontier defense will be applied to New-York harbor, and how soon action will be taken. The Committee on National Affairs were requested to make suitable preparations for the reception of the remains of Col. Ringgold, of the 103d Regiment, N. Y. V. There was some debate over a resolution to pay for ten dozen gloves furnished to the Common Council, for the funeral of Col. Kimball. The matter was finally referred to the Finance Committee.

—Municipal elections were held in most of the cities of Indiana on Monday. In Indianapolis the Copperhead ticket was withdrawn, and no opposition was made to the Union ticket. John Caven, for Mayor, received 2,880 votes. Col. Richard J. Ryan 2,830, and the other candidates about the same number. The new Council stands seventeen Union to one Copperhead. In Terre Haute, Albert Lange, late Auditor of State, was elected Mayor, and the whole Union ticket carried by a majority of about 400. Michigan City and Shelbyville have also gone Union.

—Yesterday afternoon, Alexander Hutchings, a Scotchman, residing at the New-York Hotel, and Henry J. Kerner, a German, were arrested in the neighborhood of the Custom-House, in Wall street, by the First Precinct Police, on a charge of disorderly conduct, in attempting to give "three cheers for Jeff. Davis," under circumstances calculated to make undue excitement in the street. They will be taken to the Tombs this morning.

—The United States Marshal made an important arrest yesterday, that of Solomon Konstin, on a charge of defrauding the Government to a very extensive amount. He was also re-arrested on a civil process, taken before the United States District Court, and committed in default of \$150,000 bail to answer. Konstin has already been an inmate of Fort Lafayette.

—Yesterday, the Fort Gansevoort case was submitted to the Supreme Court, General Term, on appeal from Judge Barnard's decision, directing the Controller to issue bonds to James B. Taylor and others, to complete the purchase. No decision was rendered.

—Edmund Baron, a foreigner residing at the Metropolitan Hotel, in this city, committed suicide on Tuesday night. Loss of fortune appears to have been the cause. He left his body to a friend, with directions to have the skeleton hung up in his (doctor's) office as a memento.

—The annual meeting of the Chamber of Commerce of this city was held yesterday. Pelatiah Perit, who has been President for ten years, declined a reelection, and Abiel A. Low was unanimously chosen. Other officers were elected, and then the meeting closed.

—A number of resident Secessionists yesterday took possession of the body of Mr. Jackson, the Virginian, who died a few days ago at French's Hotel, in this city, and had it embalmed so as to be sent South when the war is over.

—Indian troubles have broken out in Utah; 24 whites, in pursuit of stolen stock, have been murdered; 17 Indians killed in retaliation, and 300 whites are in pursuit of the notorious Winnenuck.

—President Lincoln has approved the sentence of death passed upon two men convicted of recruiting for the Rebel army in Kentucky, and they are to be executed on the 10th inst.

—The ship Princess Royal, from Liverpool for Halifax, was lost in the ice on the 1st inst.; crew saved.

—Gov. Seymour has at last vetoed the Broadway Railroad bill. We print elsewhere his reasons for doing so.

—Boats are through the Erie Canal; water was let into the Black River Canal on Wednesday.

—With a diminished amount of business yesterday morning, the market was very irregular. At the opening there was a pressure to sell stocks under the blue feeling occasioned by the advice from the Army, but as the session proceeded there was a stronger feeling developed, and the market showed higher prices. The bears made no marked demonstration, but the pressure to sell came from the timid bulls who were carrying stocks mainly bought at low prices. At the Second Board there was a large activity in the prominent families and rampant quotations. The entire tone of the market was changed, and there was a much greater desire to buy than there was in the morning. The bears, who looked for a panic, were disappointed, and came in as buyers to cover their shorts. The movement in Government was fairly large, and quotations under the circumstances, were well sustained. At the 4 o'clock call the session was very active and excited one, with a continued upward tendency in prices, the market closing strong. The foreign Exchange market is moderately active at 109 1/2 for Sterling, which is relatively cheaper than gold. Freight is moderately active

and decidedly firmer at the close. The Gold market has been violently agitated by the movement of the Army. After selling from 154 up to 157, it dropped to 154, but subsequently recovered to 156. The Money market was more active under the calling in of loans by some alarmed capitalists this morning, but later in the day there was calmer water, and every one was accommodated at 126 1/2 per cent.

Our third page (morning edition) to-day is occupied by carefully-prepared lists of killed and wounded in the recent battles.

Our latest news from Gen. Hooker is, that his army is all safely across the river. He saved all his material, and brought away as many of the enemy's guns as he lost of his own. He is said to estimate his entire loss at about 10,000 killed, wounded, and captured. A full account of the latest movements is given in our correspondent's letter and other articles on our first page.

The capture of Grand Gulf by Gen. Grant's forces is definitely announced in a telegram from Cairo. The news comes by a dispatch boat which brings information for the Government. All the guns, ammunition and stores of the Rebels were captured, together with 500 prisoners. Advices a day or two earlier say that McClelland with a large force is on his way to Port Hudson.

According to Rebel accounts, Gen. Stoneman did his work splendidly. His men moved in three columns, cutting the Richmond and Fredericksburg and Virginia Central railroads at various places, some within eight or nine miles of Richmond. Up to Monday night only about forty of them had been captured. By way of Fortress Monroe we hear that a part of Stoneman's cavalry arrived at White House on Tuesday. This is the column that the Rebel papers say was moving down the north branch of the Chickahominy on Monday.

From Union prisoners released from Richmond on Tuesday, we have a different story—rather a large one, too—for which see our special Washington dispatches.

GEN. HOOKER'S RETREAT.

Gen. Hooker's recrossing the Rappahannock during Tuesday night has given the loyal Millions a very disagreeable shock. His advance across a deep and rapid river had been so admirably planned, and effected with so little loss on his part, that the country confidently looked to see it crowned by a decisive victory. And especially since it is known that Gen. Stoneman's cavalry had been at least partially successful—that the Railroads from Fredericksburg to Richmond and Gordonsville respectively had been so dismantled as to render them impassable for trains of supplies and but partially servicable for the transportation of men, it will seem that he ought at least to have been able to hold the ground he so easily gained until abundant reinforcements could reach him from Washington, Baltimore, and the vicinity of Hampton Roads. But he decided on placing his army again in safety on this side of the Rappahannock, and effected it with little loss. The presumption of a battle on Tuesday, which was countenanced by a brief dispatch in cypher which reached us just in season for our last, was not well founded. There was a little skirmishing on Tuesday and the following night, but nothing that could be magnified into a battle. Our correspondent, who left Gen. Hooker's army on Wednesday morning and reached our City yesterday morning, indulged in some criticisms on the decision and order to retreat which we do not indorse, but which we did not see fit to suppress nor even modify. A General who understands his business is not to be made nor unmade by the criticisms of a non-military spectator of his doings; and, on the other hand, the reports of eye-witnesses must close all their peculiar value if they are to be clipped and doctored to suit some other person's notions of what they should have been. As with regard to another correspondent's letters from the Peninsula during the progress of McClelland's "change of base," we print exactly as we receive, knowing that those who make an ungenerous use of this course by parading the hasty criticisms of our correspondents as the opinions of THE TRIBUNE would find some other mode of exhibiting their knavery if we deprived them of this one. The letters of our correspondents sometimes embody their own opinions on what passes under their observation, but ours are expressed in our own department of these columns, not in theirs.

Gen. Hooker was doubtless keenly disappointed and greatly disconcerted by the panic flight of the 11th Corps on Saturday, by which his combinations were defeated and victory snatched away when it seemed already within his grasp. It would seem that he did not afterward trust his men so thoroughly nor risk daring movements so freely as he had previously done, and as was indispensable to decided success. If he made any grave mistake—and we lack the requisite knowledge, even if we had the strategic ability to determine that he did or did not—we should say that it was his inaction on Monday. On that day, the Rebels, finding that Sedgwick was close in their rear, having successfully stormed the heights overlooking Fredericksburg, appear to have turned upon him with the bulk of their force, overwhelming him with superior numbers after a gallant resistance, and driving him across the Rappahannock at Banks's Ford. Of course, Hooker must have heard the roar of the cannon and known that this fight was going on with the odds fearfully against Sedgwick, and it would seem that he should have thrown himself in full force on some portion of the Rebel lines confronting him, as Sedgwick had pressed upon their rear the day before. But we do not offer this as a criticism, but as a mere non-military speculation. There may have been excellent reasons not yet known to us for his acting precisely as he did.

The Rebels seem to have acted with signal energy and skill from the moment that they found Hooker in force on their right flank. Never troubling themselves about communications or lines of retreat, they massed their forces—rolled them up into a hard ball, as it

were—and threw it with deadly aim upon whatever portion of Hooker's largely extended lines they from time to time found weakest. They, of course, exposed masses of infantry to be plowed through and through by murderous volleys of shell and grape; but they knew the price of success, and were ready to pay it. Their losses in killed and wounded probably exceed our own, and in prisoners are scarcely, if at all, inferior. Yet they will claim, and justly, a great triumph, in that they have checked and turned back the advance of the Army of the Potomac.

As to the effect of this repulse on the progress and issues of the war, it is too early to speculate. All our knowledge of what is yet future is summed up in the axiom that GOD REIGNS, and that all injustice and oppression are surely to be vanquished and overthrown. If the loyal Millions deserve to triumph this year, they will; if not, we must wait till they shall have been purified by suffering:

"For Freedom's battle, once begun,
Besought by blood from bleeding sire to son,
Though baffled oft, is ever won."

THE PROSPECT OF A EUROPEAN WAR.

Never since the memorable year of 1848 has there been such excitement and uneasiness in the European mind as at present. There is a feeling abroad, and it is evidently increasing every day, that the whole Continent is drifting into war. It is easy to discover this apprehension in the tone of the Press, in the excitement of public meetings, in the speeches in the Legislatures, in the manifold manifestations of public opinion. The very official dispatches which try to allay the excitement tend, by their over-officiousness, rather to add to it new fuel. When and where a general outbreak may begin it is, of course, impossible to predict, but it is easy to point out the spots where a frightful explosion, sooner or later, must necessarily take place.

Poland, of course, will remain for the present the center and chief seat of the revolutionary excitement. The estrangement between the Polish and Russian nationalities is now greater than ever before. If, as the Russian accounts maintain, a large portion of the high aristocracy and of the peasants have been opposed to the revolution, it is easy to foresee that the continuance of the war, and in particular the growing hostility among the Russians to everything that bears the Polish name, will, in case of an even moderate success of the national party, soon enlist the sympathies of all classes of the population for the national cause. Of the insurrection in Lithuania, and the other Polish provinces, immediately connected with Russia, enough is known to predict with certainty that a very large proportion of the population will continue to identify itself with the national aspirations of the Poles. The unhesitating rejection of the offered amnesty shows the determination of the Poles not to be satisfied with anything short of national independence. They as well as Europe have learned by the present revolution the strength which is still inherent in their nationality. If the Russians, after the utmost exertions, were unable in three months, to quell the unorganized and almost unarmed insurrection how much more difficult will it be to suppress it when supported by the enthusiasm of a population of not less than twenty millions, and which will ere long be able to supply themselves with arms. The full understanding of this fact has now made Poland a much greater danger to Russia than it has ever been before.

The peril thus arising to Russia must become vastly greater as soon as a power is found whose interest it is to form a close alliance with Poland, and to use the Polish insurrection for its own purposes. Such a power Poland has found in Sweden, one of those countries which has adopted with enthusiasm the principle of nationality. During the former Polish revolutions but little was heard of Sweden; but now its whole population appears to regard the Polish cause as their own. They remember that in past years their nationality has been regarded by Russia much as she looked upon that of the Poles; that it was Russia which has destroyed her influence in Europe, and taken from her her richest provinces. Many of these losses are irretrievable, but the Grand Duchy of Finland still speaks the Swedish language, and may yet be recovered, and with it the chief control of the Baltic. Hence this unbounded enthusiasm manifested for the Polish revolution, an enthusiasm in which even the Heir Apparent has openly taken part. Sweden must go with Poland if she hopes to obtain a restoration of what she claims to be the natural frontier of her nationality. So decided has been the expression of public opinion as to make in probable that Sweden is ready to accept war with Russia as soon as she may reasonably hope that other great Powers will not prevent her.

Sweden, Poland and the Polish Provinces of Russia combined would be undoubtedly a foe to meet whom would require the utmost exertions of the Russian Empire. It would seriously imperil the present position of Russia among the Grand Powers of Europe. Such a combat would at the same time be so great a shock to the whole state system of Europe as almost to compel other powers to take part in it. It is evident that the same motive which induced Napoleon to aid Italy in her war against Austria for the recovery of Lombardy, will tempt him to aid the Poles in their struggle for national independence and Sweden in hers for the recovery of Finland. There are rumors that Napoleon has already resolved upon taking such a step, and that he has concluded an offensive and defensive alliance with Sweden.

It will thus be seen how easily a great European war may grow out of the Polish revolution. We may add that a serious war in Eastern Europe is almost sure to lead to a revolution in Prussia, and that Louis Napoleon is generally believed to speculate upon such an eventuality as the best opportunity for extending the frontier of France at the expense of Germany and Belgium. A war of such dimensions would of course make any European intervention in our own affairs impossible.

NEGRO EQUALITY.

It is something, amid the trials and sorrows of our day, to find in a Washington daily such frank expressions of the logic of justice and common sense as the following—which we copy from *The Chronicle*:

"The white about negro equality is worse than illogical; it is cowardly. The men who are so afraid of being degraded by the fact that free competition in labor, in morality and in progress which belongs of right to every man, is accorded to a race that has hitherto been unjustly held in subjection, are not sure of their position. We are reminded of the aristocrats of doubtful antecedents, who are afraid to hold even the most distant connection with their plebeian neighbors, for fear of losing caste. Their claims to quality are so frail that they must be fenced about and protected by every possible guard, while the true nobleman fears not that his reputation will be compromised by any association he may choose to form. So it is with many of those men who fear negro competition. Conscious of their own inferiority to the mass of unskilled, and recognizing the fact that they exist and thrive only by the aid of adventitious advantages, they look with jealousy on any new rivals and competitors, and use every means, fair and unfair, to keep them out of the market."

"The same sort of opposition has been made to the introduction of female labor into any of the various branches of manufacture. Consequently, women have always been discriminated against. They have been restricted to a small range of employments; their wages have been kept down; and many, who would be perfectly competent to perform the duties of clerks or accountants, or to earn good wages in some branch of manufacture, have been driven by their necessities either to suicide or prostitution. Several years ago, the proprietors of a large crockery manufactory in England, being short of hands, bethought themselves of employing women to put the figures on some of the rich and more delicate articles. Before long, they had become more skillful than men. They did better work, and accomplished it faster. As soon as this became evident, all the men about the establishment struck, and refused to work on any terms until the women were driven from the workshops and denied employment. The pressure forced the proprietors to yield, and women who had been earning handsome wages, and were looking forward to the enjoyment of a competence in their old age, were turned penniless on the world. The same cowardly meanness was at one time evinced by certain agricultural clerks in New-York, when it was suggested to employ girls in their places."

"The fear that the people of the North, with all their superiority of race, their advantages of education, and their experience, are in danger of being overthrown by three or four millions of freed slaves, is absurd and unwarranted. The negroes will do well if, when they come to enter into free competition with the whites, they can preserve their existence. It would not be surprising if, in the course of a century they should, just as the Indians have. To be sure, they are superior to the Indians, and have had no inconsiderable education in the arts of peace; but they labor under disadvantages, when brought into competition with the whites, which might well daunt the stoutest heart even beating under a white skin. Instead of the stumbling block to the progress of the freedmen, we should send them a helping hand, and try to discover, if possible, just what capacity for civilization there is in them, that their labor and their talents may be preserved to the country, and that we may make some slight reparation to the wrongs which have been done to them. If, as it is said, they can sustain themselves, they will live. If not, they must be destroyed. The unspeakable law of nature and justice of God will be the only law that will prevail in the presence of the stronger, is not going to be suspended for the benefit of the freed negroes of America."

PERSUASION.

The Boston Courier copies our remark that we "let see no way to upset those abominable laws but by persuading the States respectively in whose name and behalf they were enacted to have them repealed."

On which remarks *The Courier*—

"But oh! if these men had only had the barely decent grace to confine themselves to the 'persuading' process, instead of what amounts to blood, what incalculable wrong, what irreparable stain upon our country's name, would have been spared to the unhappy and groaning land!"

Comments by H. G.—I tried, more than twenty-five years ago, to "persuade" two slaveholders that their system was unjust and pernicious, and their reply was an attempt to persuade me off a dock into thirty feet water, which I was barely able with help to prevent. Long after that, I tried to persuade another slaveholder of a lifelong negro-trader, and now himself a Rebel General that he had made an unfair proposition in Congress, and he replied by attempting to persuade a hole into the top of my skull, and my brains out through that hole. That is all my personal experience on the subject; but I have very often been assured (no doubt truly) that if I should ever go South and attempt there to persuade people that Slavery was wrong, I should very soon have the breath of life persuaded out of my body. When a few nobodies first began to persuade people hereabout that Slavery was wrong, a Democratic Governor (Marcy) called for laws to suppress and punish such efforts, and Democrats all over the Free States resorted to a liberal use of asafetida, cayenne pepper, cowbells, bad eggs, bludgeons, knock-downs, arson, &c., &c., to quell such persuasion. Mr. George Lunt, if our memory serves, was an early and ardent champion of these vigorous modes of "saving the Union." If he is the Editor of *The Boston Courier*, what can he mean!

The Age (Philadelphia) has an elaborate attack on the military capacity of CARL SCHURZ, whereof the gist is as follows:

"Again we say, the battle on Saturday last would have ended very differently if Sigel instead of Schurz had commanded the Germans in the Eleventh Army Corps."

—Now, as Schurz never did command the Eleventh nor any other Corps in our army, we presume the battle did end "very differently." Why not?

The World affects to demonstrate against the criticisms which Gen. Scott's appeal against paying his Income Tax has provoked, saying:

"Surely, the 'imperious necessities of the public Treasury' are not so pressing as to render it indispensable to tax the closing hours of the old hero's life by demanding from him \$20,000 per month."

—Does *The World* wish to be understood that Commissioner Lewis, or any one else, has a right to excuse from the general obligation to pay the taxes imposed by law? If it does, we most earnestly protest against the doctrine. The Commissioner can only determine what the law actually requires; that settled, he has no dispensing power whatever. The "indispensable" thing is, that every one should be required to pay his prescribed quota of tax—neither less nor more. Let one man be excused on any such ground as *The World* here indicates, and there is an end to the payment of taxes. It may be very hard that any one's "closing hours" should be vexed by a requirement of \$31 50 per month for the support of the Government; but if any man can stand it, he can who is receiving over \$12,000 per annum out of the proceeds of National taxation without being required to render any service in return.

CONGRESSION.—Hon. Chauncey F. Cleveland (ex-Governor and ex-Member of Congress) of Hampton is the Speaker elect of the Connecticut House, by 133 votes to 84 for Wm. W. Eaton of Hartford, (Peace Dem.) For Clerk, N. L. Harrison of New-Haven (Repub.) has 135 votes to 87 for Charles N. Johnson (Dem.) Gilbert W. Phillips (Repub. Union) was elected by 13 votes to 7 for Henry A. Mitchell, (Dem.)

FROM WASHINGTON.

ARRIVAL OF EXCHANGED UNION PRISONERS.

IMPORTANT REPORTS FROM RICHMOND.

The Effect of Stoneman's Expedition.

500 Men Could Have Captured the City.

THE ATTACK ON FORT SUMTER.

The Rebels Were About to Surrender.

SPIES TO BE HUNG IN KENTUCKY.

Decision Concerning the Income Tax.

Special Dispatch to The N. Y. Tribune.

WASHINGTON, Thursday, May 7, 1863.

ARRIVAL OF EXCHANGED UNION OFFICERS.

Two hundred and ten exchanged officers, including Gen. Stoughton of Vermont, captured at Fairfax Court-House, and Gen. Williford of Indiana, captured at Murfreesboro, as were a large majority of the officers who returned with him, arrived at Annapolis from Richmond to-day, having left that city on Tuesday.

The report brought by these men is most important and interesting. On Saturday, Sunday and Monday Richmond was palsied with fear. Not a soldier was in the city or in Petersburg. The forts were manned by citizens and employees. Gen. Stoughton and Williford express the opinion that 500 resolute soldiers could have captured the city, carried off Jeff. Davis, his Cabinet and his Congress, and liberated every Union prisoner.

Even the guards at the prison were wounded, men who limped along their beats. A week ago a parole was extorted from every prisoner that he would not attempt to escape. Two of Gen. Stoneman's scouts were taken by a squad of improvised cavalry within a mile and a half of the Rebel capital. Gen. Stoneman had done a good work in cutting the Rebel communications. He had destroyed the locks of the James River Canal at points thirty miles and twenty miles above Richmond. He had rendered the railroad useless for thirty miles, half the distance from Richmond to Fredericksburg.

The nearest bridge was not more than four miles and a half from Richmond, over the Chickahominy. That over the Pamunkey is also destroyed. Gen. Stoneman's main body, however, did not approach so near by several miles, the work of destruction being performed by detachments sent out, each on its special mission. Stoneman captured and destroyed the rolling stock of two trains, captured a corn of 300 horses, turning loose as many worn out ones of his own, and brought away with him three times as many prisoners as he lost.

Nowhere did he meet with organized resistance. The Rebels pronounce this the greatest feat of the kind in military annals. Stoughton was told by Rebel officers at Charleston, during Dupont's attack, that Sumter was on the point of surrendering under the monitors withdrawn. Several shots passed entirely through the Fort, piercing both walls, and falling into the water beyond.

SPIES TO BE HUNG IN KENTUCKY.

Two men who have been engaged in recruiting for the Rebel army in Kentucky, having been tried and convicted as spies before a military commission, were sentenced to be hung. The President has approved the proceedings and finding and sentence, and the spies will be executed on the 15th of May.

THE INCOME OF LITERARY, SCIENTIFIC AND CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS.

The Commissioner of Internal Revenue has decided that the income of literary, scientific or other charitable institutions in the hands of Trustees or other agents is not subject to tax.

OUR RELATIONS WITH ENGLAND.

The reports of the late debates in Parliament disprove, in a great measure, apprehensions which were raised by the telegraphic summary. The debates, as a whole, and particularly Cobden's speech, are believed to have helped the cause of the Union.

FUGITIVE SLAVE LAW WRITS.

A case has been made up to test the legality of writs issued under the Fugitive Slave law for the recovery of chattels escaping into this District. Argument will be heard in a day or two.

DEPORTATION OF SIOUX INDIANS.

The Indian Bureau has information that the deportation of the Sioux Indians from Minnesota to Fort Randall, Dakota Territory, has commenced.

To the Associated Press.

WASHINGTON, Thursday, May 7, 1863.

NAVAL PROMOTIONS AND ORDERS.

Acting Master Francis Wells has been promoted to be Acting Volunteer Lieutenant for gallant conduct in battle, and ordered to the command of the steamer Daylight.

Acting Master Samuel Hise has been promoted to be Acting Volunteer Lieutenant for gallant conduct in battle, and ordered to the command of the steamer Shockoon.

Acting Masters J. E. Starnard and David H. Crowell have been ordered to the North Atlantic Blockading Squadron.

Franklin W. Brigham has been appointed Acting Assistant Surgeon.

Acting Master's Mate James McConnell, having deserted from the Navy-Yard, New-York, is dropped from the rolls.

THE INVALID CORPS.

The War Department has authorized the organization of an Invalid Corps. The companies are to be made up from officers and enlisted men of the commands now in the field, who from wounds received in action or disease contracted in the line of duty, are unfit for field service, but are still capable of effective garrison duty or such other duty as may be required of an invalid corps.

This corps will also include officers and enlisted men still in the service and on the rolls, but who are absent on duty in hospitals or convalescent camps, or are otherwise under the control of medical officers; and officers and men honorably discharged on account of wounds or diseases,